



Division of Water Resources / State Revolving Fund Loan Program

William R. Snodgrass TN Tower, 12th Floor
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Phone: (615) 532-0445

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

For the Proposed Project of First Utility District of Hawkins County (Hawkins County), Tennessee

Loan Nos. DG5 2016-181 and DWF 2016-184

July 12, 2016

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (Department) State Revolving Fund Loan Program has conducted a review of the above-referenced project in accordance with the Operating Agreement between the Department and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for implementing the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Loan Program. The Department has determined that this project is eligible for a Categorical Exclusion (CE). Accordingly, the Department is exempting the project from further substantive environmental review requirements under the Department's EPA-approved National Environmental Policy Act-like environmental review process.

The project consists of the installation of approximately 8,400 automated meter reading (AMR) meters to replace the existing meters within the service area of the First Utility District (UD) of Hawkins County. The total estimated project cost is \$2,400,000. The First UD of Hawkins County has applied for two DWSRF loans totaling \$2,400,000 to fund this project. The first loan (DG5 2016-181) is for \$1,000,000 with a \$750,000 loan and \$250,000 in principle forgiveness that will not have to be repaid by the First UD of Hawkins County. The second loan (DWF 2016-184) is for \$1,400,000. A map showing the service area accompanies this CE.

The project is eligible for a CE because undertaking this action:

1. Does not involve serious local or environmental issues;
2. Will not have a significant effect on the quality of the human environment either individually, cumulatively, over time, or in conjunction with other Federal, State, local, tribal or private action(s);
3. Will not directly or indirectly affect cultural resources, endangered or threatened species and their habitats, or environmentally important natural resource areas, and
4. Is cost-effective and should cause no significant public controversy.

The CE determination shall become effective upon its distribution by the Department and can be revoked at any time adverse information is made available. The documentation to support this CE eligibility determination will be on file with the Department and available for public review upon request.

If you wish to comment or to challenge this CE determination, send your written comment(s) to:

Mr. Sam R. Gaddipati, Environmental Manager
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or call or e-mail (615) 532-0462 or sam.gaddipati@tn.gov.